

## **Supersites breakout and Board meeting discussion at WEGENER 2012 conference, Strasbourg: 18-19 September 2012**

### **Minutes summarized by Andy Hooper and Falk Amelung**

- Falk Amelung introduced GEO's Geohazard Supersites and Natural Laboratory initiative (GSLN) including the GNSS data sharing pilot, and their role in the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).
- Process: Permanent Supersite proposals are invited by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC). Interested agencies are invited to submit a questionnaire (available from the Supersites web page – documents) to start the process.
- An action plan of GEO is GNSS seamless archive for Europe, USA and Japan
  - Use of Geodesy Seamless Archive-Web Services (GSAC-WS) from UNAVCO. Others are invited to come on board.
- Question from JM Noquet about whether GSAC should be a new data exchange standard? Could be, according to S Wier. There does not seem to be anything else around. Unavco has plans to develop a similar software for SAR, interconnecting data centers at space agencies.
- SAR data: If somebody has need for ESA data relevant for GSLN, send shopping-cart files to Unavco for ordering and placing on ESA's Virtual Archive 4. Info on Supersites webpage (same for data repatriation).
- Y Klinger: Add a representative about optical imagery to SAC? Answer from FA: yes good idea, but needs to be driven forward by someone in that community. CNES (S Hosford) is very supportive of GSLN and would like to coordinate with the community for the provision of Pleiades data. Discussions should be started in an informal manner with CNES.
- M Meghraoui asks about DEMs. FA: Should be. DLR (G. Schreier) has expressed interest of DLR providing TDX DEMs. There is a need for somebody taking the responsibility.
- F. Amelung: Germany is one of the main drivers of GEO. Reasonable data requests that advance GEO are likely answered positive.
- Discussion on supersite candidates in Europe/Africa:
  - M Meghraoui: Corinth, Dead Sea fault, Alboran Sea
  - S. Zerbini: Messina. FA: This is also a priority of Fabio del Aqua, Eucentre, Pisa, one of the GEO task leaders
  - FA differentiates between EPOS and supersites.
  - FA: There is a need of the Europe/Africa community to agree about additional candidate Supersites. 5-10 sites could be covered with TSX, possibly more with Cosmo-Skymed A list should be produced in collaboration between WEGENER and EPOS.
  - Subsidence of major cities is currently not covered by Supersites (only earthquake, volcanoes, tectonics).
  - New Zealand, Alpine fault around Wellington? Lets ask New Zealand to participate and write a proposal. Amelung will contact John Beaven. Details will be discussed with Supersites tectonics and volcano committees.
- What about non-tectonic/non-volcanic hazards? FA: Similar structures can be set up by members of other communities based on the Supersites model (landslides, coastal subsidence, climate change studies).

- F Amelung: How to represent GNSS in the GSNL Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)? Maybe WEGENER can have representation on SAC, and review all proposals from GNSS point-of-view. Can they really represent the whole GNSS community? To be discussed at WEGENER board meeting.
- Discussion on the SAC structure: A matrix structure was proposed with geophysical process as rows and data type as columns. This approach would ensure the coverage of everything. Some groups/SAC members should take the responsibility of multiple matrix elements to keep the SAC size small. FA: Good idea. The monitoring agencies could have a similar structure for each continent(s)/country. But how to realize this in terms of bylaws?

Discipline/ process	Seismic	GPS	InSAR	Optical	DEM?/others
Earthquakes		WEGENER	Fielding	Klinger?	
Volcanoes		WEGENER	Biggs		
Tectonics		WEGENER	Wright		
(land slides?)		WEGENER	?		
Chair(?) (SAC member)		WEGENER (Zerbini)	Amelung		

- R Reilinger asks how we get other countries like Azerbaijan to participate? He has had success by offering equipment to partners in countries, then getting all data shared. Can we offer incentives like this? Amelung: Support for cyber-infrastructure (GSAC) is available from Unavco. Given the political visibility of GEO, national agencies may be able to receive additional funding for participation in GEOSS (example European Supersites). The development of a Supersite is a compelling argument in collaborative proposals to funding agencies in “rich” countries. This is also one of the goals of the Geohazard Community of Practice (GCoP).
- Concerns are expressed that GNSS agencies are worried that their contribution will not be recognized if offered through a seamless archive. FA: The SAC is well aware of this. It is planned to first make progress interconnecting the different data centers and then design a front end (portal) that all stake holders are happy with (the portal for the GSAC archive has not been designed). GEO will provide guidance (following the GEO Common Infrastructure, GCI).
- Permanent Supersites proposals: The SAC has received proposals from Hawaii and Iceland, which need to be reviewed re data sharing commitment. S Jonsson will help with the GNSS of the Iceland proposal.

Discussions at WEGENER Board meeting.

- WEGENER will represent the GPS community on the SAC (S. Zerbini, alternate M. Miller).
- WEGENER will help writing the SAC’s proposal announcement for permanent Supersites (supplementing the CEOS announcement) with emphasis on data sharing requirements.
- WEGENER will participate in review of Supersite proposals with responsibility on GNSS data.

**Actions:**

1. Ask a New Zealand representatives to name candidate Supersites (**F Amelung**).

Actions without individuals assigned:

1. Develop a plan for European/North African candidate Supersites (**WEGENER board** in collaboration with EPOS).
2. A scientist with interest in optical imagery needs to identified to lead this portion of the GSNL.